

Arctic MSI NAVAREA XVII and XVIII

Submitted by Canada / Canadian Coast Guard

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document contains information about the planned timeline for transmission of NAVAREA warnings for NAVAREA XVII and XVIII.

Action to be taken: Paragraph 5

Related documents: None

1. The Canadian Coast Guard plans to provide a NAVAREA SafetyNET service starting in January 1, 2010 for NAVAREA XVII and XVIII.
2. The NAVAREA service will be operated from one Canadian Marine Communications and Traffic Services Centres (MCTS). This centre is already transmitting SAR information broadcast to ships by means of SafetyNET and it also provides a NAVTEX service. All operators are GMDSS and Vessel Traffic Services qualified. The Centre is equipped with comprehensive telecommunications equipment and it has a contingency plan.
3. Minimal operational guidance will be required. The Canadian Coast Guard is the issuing authority for navigational warnings and MCTS operators are responsible for preparing the messages and to broadcast them as appropriate. A yearly average of 30 Navigational warnings are issued for waters above **above 67° N**. Training from NAVAREA Co-ordinator IV and XVII may be required accordingly in the Fall of 2009.
4. Coverage of waters included in Sea Area A4 (above76° N) is currently provided in several ways by National Authorities as described in the IMO GMDSS master plan. The Canadian Coast Guard broadcasts MSI by means of Radiotelephony and radio facsimile during navigation season for arctic waters under its Maritime Search and Rescue Region. Tests are being carried out on Narrow Band Direct Printing on 8MGz during the 2008 Arctic Navigation season. Results of the tests will be reported at COMSAR 13.
5. The information is presented at CPRNW 10 for appropriate action.